

that simple. I think we should be addressing that responsibility. Now I realize that this is going to trigger an increase in the sales and income tax and I am perfectly willing to support that. I am perfectly willing to go back home to my constituents and explain to them that their property taxes are going down because the sales and income tax is going to go up a little bit. They are ready for that. They want that. The elderly people of this state on fixed incomes need it. I talked to an auction market owner in my district last night and it is not only the elderly people of the State of Nebraska that need it. The farmers and ranchers of this state need it also. If we don't have property tax relief we are going to be taxed right out of our farms and our ranches just as the elderly people are taxed right out of their homes in the cities. Property tax problems are not unique to rural Nebraska or unique to urban Nebraska and the property tax problem is brought about in the by and large because of the high cost of local education. I think it is imperative that we give more dollars to local education from the sales and income tax and I think this is the way and the time to do it. Mr. President, in some of the minutes that I have left of my closing I would like Senator Koch to use part of those. Would that be okay with you?

PRESIDENT: All right, Senator Koch. Two minutes left, Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and Senator Vickers. A number of years ago when we landed on the moon the astronaut said, "A giant stride for mankind," and if this body wants to take a giant stride towards property tax relief this is the way to do it. With the limitations in place you will know there has to be a direct proportional relief upon property tax. Let me give you a few examples of how this will affect different places of this state. Senator Marvel's area, they will go from \$739,000 to \$1,400,000. Neligh in Senator DeCamp's area, they will go from \$56,000 to \$297,000. Hemingford goes from \$30,000 to \$80,000. Kearney from \$423,000 to \$1,500,000; Omaha from \$11,000,000 to \$24,000,000; Grand Island; \$1,500,000 to \$2.9 million; Lincoln, \$4.9 million to \$9.9 million; Alliance, \$168,000 to \$740,000; Norfolk, \$340,000 to \$1,668,000; South Sioux, \$786,000 to \$1,500,000. This is the way it goes. Every school, regardless of what we think is wealth on our property tax will show a dramatic increase in terms of finance and a dramatic decrease in property taxes. As Senator Vickers indicated to you by a previous handout, I don't know if you have read it, it was prepared by our staff. It would mean absolutely a